

Message Text

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ACTION EA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SNM-02 AID-05 DEAE-00 CIAE-00 INR-07

IO-10 JUSE-00 NSAE-00 RSC-01 SY-04 TRSE-00 USIA-06

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R 291200Z JAN 75

FM AMEMBASSY SAIGON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2311

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAG: SNAR, VS

SUBJECT: SEMI-ANNUAL REPORTING REQUIREMENTS--CONGRESSIONAL PRE-
SENTATION

REF: A) STATE 012151; B) SAIGON 15697; C) SAIGON 13808;
D) SAIGON 21417

1. THE FOLLOWING REPORT FOLLOWS THE FORMAT PARAGRAPH BY PARAGRAPH
AS IN REFTTEL A. FOR GENERAL INFORMATION ON NARCOTICS IN VIETNAM SEE
REFERENCES C AND D.

2. SECTION A.

(A) NO ASSISTANCE AGREEMENTS E.G., PROAG'S EXCHANGE OF NOTES,
ETC., IN ANY CATEGORY (ENFORCEMENT, PREVENTION, TREATMENT AND
REHABILITATION, CROP, INCOME, ETC.) HAVE BEEN ENTERED INTO
DURING THIS PERIOD.

(B) OBLIGATIONS AND EXPENDITURES:

(1) AS STATED PARA (A) ABOVE, NO NEW FY 75 OBLIGATIONS WERE
MADE. EXPENDITURES OF \$30,602 WERE MADE DURING REPORTING PERIOD
UNDER PROJECT 730-11-750-340.02, CUSTOMS ADMINISTRATION
NARCOTICS CONTROL ALLOTMENT, PROJECT AGREEMENT 74-021, AGAINST
FY 74 OBLIGATIONS AS FOLLOWS:

(AA) PERSONNEL (PASA) - \$20,819

(BB) EQUIPMENT - \$9,783

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(CC) CONTRACT SERVICES - NONE

(DD) OTHER - NONE.

(C) EQUIPMENT (ORDERED UNDER FY 74 OBLIGATIONS):

(1) ONE NARCOTICS DETECTION DOG RECEIVED 30 JULY 1974, VALUE \$6,000.

(2) IN PIPELINE 31 DEC 74 (BUT DELIVERED 7 JAN 75), 12 EACH LEAD ACID BATTERIES, ELECTROLYTE, AND BATTERY CABLE CONNECTORS, VALUE \$3,783. NOTE: ONE BATTERY WAS DAMAGED IN SHIPMENT AND CREDIT BEING GIVEN; NO DECISION YET WHETHER OR NOT IT WILL BE REORDERED.

(3) SIXTY-FIVE EACH REVOLVERS REPORTEDLY AVAILABLE FOR SURFACE SHIPMENT 25 JAN 75, VALUE \$6,100.

(D) SUPPORT COSTS - NONE.

(E) THE FOLLOWING TRAINING HAS OCCURRED IN-COUNTRY:

(1) SPECIAL AGENTS FROM WASHINGTON D.C. (DEA) CONDUCTED A TWO WEEK IN-COUNTRY TRAINING SESSION FOR 91 VIETNAMESE NARCOTICS OFFICERS DURING THE PERIOD 28 OCT TO 2 NOV 1974.

ADDITIONALLY TWO VIETNAMESE CUSTOMS OFFICIALS

ATTENDED THE FOREIGN CUSTOMS COURSE IN WASHINGTON, D.C. FROM 27 AUG TO 17 NOV 1974.

(F) DEA IS THE ONLY MISSION AGENCY CONCERNED WITH NARCOTICS WHO DEVOTE MORE THAN 50 PERCENT OF THEIR TIME TO NARCOTICS CONTROL ACTIVITIES. DEA HAS FOUR SPECIAL AGENTS AND TWO U.S. CLERICALS DEVOTING FULL TIME TO NARCOTICS CONTROL.

3. SECTION B.

(A) SUMMARY. SIGNIFICANT DEVELOPMENTS DURING THE REPORTING PERIOD ARE HIGHLIGHTED BELOW. IN GENERAL, THE PERIOD WAS CHARACTERIZED BY CONTINUED EXCELLENT COOPERATION BETWEEN THE GVN AND MISSION NARCOTICS ACTIVITIES. THE GVN'S INTEREST IN THESE ACTIVITIES REMAINS HIGH.

(B) ABUSE.

(1) VIETNAM REMAINS A VICTIM NATION AS NARCOTICS (HEROIN/OPIUM) ARE NOT PRODUCED OR PROCESSED HERE. HOWEVER, MARIHUANA WHICH IS READILY AVAILABLE IS CULTIVATED IN THE DELTA AND IS ALSO SMUGGLED IN FROM SOUTHERN CAMBODIA.

(2) THERE IS A SUBSTANTIAL DEMAND FOR HIGH QUALITY, PREPARED OPIUM AND ITS SMOKING IS A TRADITIONAL AND WELL-ENTRENCHED PROBLEM PARTICULARLY AMONG THE ELDER CHINESE. OPIUM PRIMARILY ENTERS VIETNAM FROM THAILAND AND CAMBODIA.

(3) HEROIN NO. 4, IN SMALL QUANTITIES, CONTINUES TO REMAIN READILY AVAILABLE IN THE LARGER CITIES IN VIETNAM. INTELLIGENCE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
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INDICATES THAT HEROIN NO. 4 IS INCREASINGLY BEING USED BY VIETNAMESE YOUTH AND ARVN PERSONNEL.

(4) THE VIETNAMESE GOVERNMENT CONTINUES TO MAINTAIN A STRONG ATTITUDE AGAINST NARCOTIC TRAFFICKING, SMUGGLING, AND ADDICTION, AND HAS INITIATED VARIOUS EDUCATIONAL AND ENFORCEMENT PROGRAMS TO COMBAT THE SPREAD OF NARCOTICS ADDICTION IN VIETNAM.

(5) THERE IS NO INDICATION THAT VIETNAM IS A TRANS-SHIPMENT POINT FOR NARCOTICS TO THE UNITED STATES.

(C) PRODUCTION AND PROCESSING. AS STATED IN PARA 3 (B) (1) ABOVE,

THERE IS NO INDICATION THAT ANY NARCOTICS (OTHER THAN MARIHUANA) ARE PRODUCED OR PROCESSED IN VIETNAM.

(D) TRAFFICKING TRENDS. IT IS UNLIKELY THAT THERE WILL BE A NOTICEABLE DECLINE IN THE TRAFFICKING AND SMOKING OF OPIUM BY OLDER CITIZENS. IT CAN ALSO BE ASSUMED THAT TRAFFICKERS IN HEROIN NO. 4 WILL ATTEMPT TO EXPAND THEIR EXISTING MARKETS AMONG VIETNAMESE YOUTH. NO SIGNIFICANT CHANGES ARE EXPECTED IN THE METHODS OF IMPORTING NARCOTICS INTO VIETNAM.

(E) REGIONAL AND MULTI-LATERAL COOPERATION. MEMBERS OF THE VIETNAMESE NATIONAL POLICE HAVE ATTENDED AND ARE MEMBERS OF THE COLOMBO DRUG PROGRAM AND THE UNITED NATIONS DRUG PROGRAMS. THE VIETNAMESE ARE ALSO MEMBERS OF INTERPOL. VIETNAMESE CO-OPERATION WITH FELLOW OFFICERS IN NEIGHBORING COUNTRIES IS EXCELLENT AND CONTINUES TO IMPROVE.

(F) EMBASSY AND HOST GOVERNMENT ACTIVITIES. NOTHING TO REPORT EXCEPT AS NOTED IN THE FOLLOWING PARAGRAPHS:

(G) ENFORCEMENT.

(1) TOTAL SEIZURES OF OPIUM WERE 21.675 KILOGRAMS; HEROIN - 2.445 KILOGRAMS; AND MARIHUANA - 4.510 KILOGRAMS. TOTAL ARREST FOR OPIUM - 159; HEROIN - 330; MARIHUANA -9.

(2) ON JUNE 26, 1974, THE VIETNAMESE NAVY, ACTING ON INFORMATION FURNISHED BY DEA, SEIZED THE THAI TRAWLER, LUANG LAP LUNG SRI, LOADED WITH 1910.5 KILOGRAMS (MORE THAN TWO TONS) OF RAW OPIUM. AS A FOLLOW-UP TO THIS SEIZURE,

THE VIETNAMESE NARCOTICS BUREAU AND DEA SAIGON PASSED INFORMATION TO THE HONG KONG NARCOTICS BUREAU WHICH RESULTED IN THE JULY 16, 1974, SEIZURE OF ONE TON OF OPIUM AND 300 POUNDS OF MORPHINE BASE.

(3) THE VIETNAMESE NARCOTICS BUREAU, UNDER THE ASSISTANCE AND DIRECTION OF DEA, HAS CREATED A NARCOTIC INTELLIGENCE UNIT. THIS UNIT'S PRIMARY PURPOSE WILL BE TO IDENTIFY PRINCIPAL, HIGH LEVEL NARCOTIC TRAFFICKERS IN VIETNAM.

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(4) THE GVN IS CURRENTLY TRYING NARCOTIC TRAFFICKERS IN THE MILITARY COURT SYSTEM. TRAFFICKERS IN THE FUTURE WILL UNDOUBTEDLY FACE HEAVIER SENTENCES WHEN TRIED BEFORE MILITARY JUDGES WHO VIEW NARCOTICS TRAFFICKING AS COOPERATING WITH THE ENEMY.

(5) ON SEPTEMBER 6, 1974, HIGH VIETNAMESE GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS PRESIDED OVER A PUBLIC CEREMONY DURING WHICH APPROXIMATELY 40 KILOGRAMS OF SEIZED HEROIN WAS BURNED. FOLLOWING THE BURNING CEREMONY, THE GVN HELD A VIGOROUS TWO WEEK ANTI-NARCOTIC CAMPAIGN WHICH WAS GIVEN WIDESPREAD SUPPORT AND COVERAGE ON TELEVISION AND IN SCHOOLS THROUGHOUT THE COUNTRYSIDE.

(H) INCOME SUBSTITUTION. NOT APPLICABLE TO VIETNAM.

(I) TREATMENT/REHABILITATION/EDUCATION. NO INPUT DURING THE REPORTING PERIOD.

4. SEE REF B FOR NARRATIVE AND JUSTIFICATION FOR MISSION'S TREATMENT/REHABILITATION REQUEST FOR FY 76.

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